Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02755 082005Z

62.

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 OMB-01 COME-00 DRC-01 /129 W ------ 009097

R 081930Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5417

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINGSTON 2755

EO 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, JM

SUBJECT: PM MANLEY DENIES ELECTION PLANS

- 1. PRIME MINISTER MANLEY YESTERDAY DENIED RUMORS THAT HE MAY CALL FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE IS QUOTED IN THE PRESS AS SAYING THAT TO FOIST A GENERAL ELECTION ON THE PEOPLE AT THIS TIME IS UNNECESSARY JUST WHEN THE COUNTRY IS SETTLING DOWN TO MOVE ITS PROGRAMS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS.
- 2. SPECULATION ABOUT A POSSIBLE GENERAL ELECTION WAS SPARKED BY INDEPENDENT OPPOSITION LEADER ROBERT LIGHTBOURNE AND FUELED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS IN THE KINGSTON AREA TOTALLING 11.5 MILLION DOLLARS AND PLANS FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE ISLAND TOTALLING 100 MILLION DOLLARS. THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS WOULD EMPLOY SOME 30,000 PEOPLE. THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO HOLD CABINET MEETINGS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE ISLAND STARTING IN MONTEGO BAY THIS WEEK ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THE RUMORS ABOUT ITS INTENTIONS.
- 4. COMMENT: GENERAL ELECTIONS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE SEEM UNLIKELY. ON THE OTHER HAND, MANLEY IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KINGST 02755 082005Z

UNLIKELY TO WAIT UNTIL FORCED INTO ELECTIONS IN 1977. HE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY PICK THE MOST FAVORABLE MOMENT.

WHILE ELECTIONS NOW ARE UNLIKELY, MANLEY MIGHT DECIDE
THE TIME HAS COME AFTER HE COMPLETES NEGOTIATIONS WITH
THE SEVERAL BALLXITE COMPANIES SOMETIME NEXT YEAR GERARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ELECTIONS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: PM MANLEY DENIES ELECTION PLANS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, JM, (MANLEY, MICHAEL), (LIGHTBOURNE, ROBERT)

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005